

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 OMB-01 AID-05 /073 W
----- 124924

R 031300Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3990

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

SECDEF WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

COMIDEASTFOR MANAMA BAHRAIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MOPS, MASS, JO, MU

SUBJ: JORDANIAN GIFT OF 31 HAWKER HUNTERS AND TRANSFER
OF SPECIAL FORCES BRIGADE TO OMAN

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1. SUMMARY: JORDANIAN PRESS MARCH 2 CARRIED STATEMENT BY

JORDANIAN OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN REPORTING THAT "MUSCAT"
ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING:

(A) GOJ HAS GIVEN SULTANATE OF OMAN A GIFT OF 31 HAWKER
HUNTER FIGHTERS, AND

(B) HAS SENT A JORDANIAN ARMY SPECIAL FORCES BATTALION TO
REPLACE UNITS OF OMANI ARMED FORCES STATIONED ON THE "OMANI
COAST". END SUMMARY.

2. GOJ SPOKESMAN STATED THAT RJAF ENGINEERING UNIT PREVIOU-
SLY IN PLACE AND INVOLVED IN CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
OPERATIONS IS NOW BEING JOINED BY UNITS OF JAF SPECIAL FORCES
"TO WORK SIDE BY SIDE WITH BROTHERLY FORCES THERE FOR SAKE OF
SECURITY, STABILITY, PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY". JORDANIAN
SPOKESMAN STATED THAT UNITS WERE SENT IN RESPONSE TO A
REQUEST FROM LEADERSHIP OF THIS MUSLIM ARAB COUNTRY AND THAT
UNITS ARE COMPOSED OF VOLUNTEERS FROM SPECIAL FORCES UNITS.

3. REGARDING HAWKER HUNTERS GIFT, GOJ SPOKESMAN STATED
THAT:

A) JORDAN RECENTLY SENT A FIRST CONSIGNMENT OF HUNTERS TO
OMAN AFTER SERVICES OF AIRCRAFT FOR RJAF WERE TERMINATED,

B) RJAF PILOTS WILL SHORTLY TRANSFER LAST CONSIGNMENT OF 31
PLANES TO OMAN, ALONG WITH ALL EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS; AND

C) RJAF AND ITS AIR ACADEMY ARE PREPARING TO TRAIN OMANIS
AS HUNTER PILOTS.

4. COMMENT: GOJ UNDOUBETEDLY ATTEMPTING GIVE PUBLIC AIRING
TO NEWS OF TRANSFER OF JORDANIAN SPECIAL FORCES BRIGADE AND
HAWKER HUNTERS TO OMAN, WHICH HAS BEEN IN PROCESS SINCE MID-
FEBRUARY. WE CANNOT COMMENT ON OMANIS ABILITY TO PROVIDE
SUITABLE CANDIDATES FOR PILOT TRAINING; HOWEVER, WE QUESTION
RJAF'S CAPABILITY TO EXTEND ITSELF EVEN FURTHER TO ACCEPT
ADDITIONAL CANDIDATES FOR PILOT TRAINING, PRIMARILY BECAUSE
OF THE LIMITED NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT AVAILABLE FOR THIS
TRAINING.

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PICKERING

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